

West Nile Virus in Montana

West Nile Virus is a mosquito-borne virus. WNV can infect humans, birds, mosquitoes, horses, and other mammals. WNV is commonly spread by the bite of an infected mosquito.

Mild symptoms may include: fever, headache, body aches, nausea and vomiting, and sometimes includes swollen glands and a rash on the chest, stomach, and back.

Currently there is no vaccine for humans. A vaccine is available for horses, to learn more about WNV in horses contact MT Dept of Livestock at (406) 444-2043.

To prevent WNV and other mosquito-borne illnesses, remember:

- Don't go outdoors at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active.
- When outdoors use an EPA registered insect repellent. Follow instruction labels carefully.
- Dress in long sleeves and pants during dawn and dusk.
- Install and repair window and door screens.
- Drain standing water weekly since it is where mosquitoes lay eggs.
- If you have any symptoms of West Nile Virus, contact your health care provider immediately.

**For further information or questions please contact:
The Jefferson County Health Department at (406)225-4231**